

In the Claims

- 1 1. (original) A method for communicating audio messages using a two-way
2 radio, comprising:
 - 3 asynchronously transmitting an output audio message, the transmitting
 - 4 further comprising:
 - 5 generating a first acoustic signal in an input device of the radio;
 - 6 determining whether the first acoustic signal is a command, and if the
 - 7 first acoustic signal is a particular command, then responding to the
 - 8 particular command in an output device of the radio and processing the
 - 9 particular command, and otherwise storing the first acoustic signal in an
 - 10 output buffer of the radio and sending the first acoustic signal as an output
 - 11 audio message only when a communications channel is available to a
 - 12 transmitter of the radio; and
 - 13 asynchronously receiving an input audio message in a receiver of the
 - 14 radio, the receiving further comprising:
 - 15 storing the input audio message in an input buffer of the radio;
 - 16 generating a second acoustic signal in the input device;
 - 17 sending the stored input audio message to the output device only if the
 - 18 second acoustic signal is a play command.- 1 2. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein first and second acoustic signals
2 are generated in a microphone, and the response is sent to a speaker.
- 1 3. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2 activating an indicator when receiving the input audio message.

1 4. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 1~~ claim 3 wherein the indicator
2 is a light emitting diode.

1 5. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 1~~ claim 3 wherein the indicator
2 is a mechanical vibrator.

1 6. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2 sensing movement of the two-way radio in an accelerometer to
3 generate an alternative command.

1 7. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2 selecting a silent mode of operation with a select switch.

1 8. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2 communicating input and output audio messages among a plurality of
3 two-way radios via a wide area network.

1 9. (currently amended) The method of claim 8 further comprising:
2 storing the input and output audio messages in servers connected to
3 the wide area network.

1 10. (original) The method of claim 8 wherein the wide area network includes
2 a packet switched network.

1 11. (original) The method of claim 8 wherein the wide area network includes
2 an Internet network.

1 12. (original) The method of claim 8 wherein each two-way radio has a
2 unique physical identification, and an associated logical identification.

1 13. (original) The method of claim 12 wherein each logical identification is
2 in a form of a phrase having a predetermined words, the words arranged
3 according to a predetermined grammatical structure for a particular target
4 language.

1 14. (original) The method of claim 13 wherein a particular physical
2 identification and an associated particular logical identification map to a
3 plurality of phrases for a plurality of target languages, each target language
4 having particular predetermined words and particular grammatical structure
5 for the particular target language.

1 15. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the responding
2 further ~~comprising~~ comprises:
3 synthesizing a response message.

1 16. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the output device is coupled to
2 a user appliance.

1 17. (original) A two-way radio for communicating audio messages,
2 comprising:
3 an input device for generating a first acoustic signal in an input device
4 of the radio;
5 a controller for determining whether the first acoustic signal is a
6 command or an output message;
7 an output buffer for storing the output message;
8 a transmitter for sending the stored message only when a
9 communications channel is available;
10 a receiver for receiving an input message;
11 an input buffer for storing the input message;
12 an output device for playing the input message only in response to a
13 play command.